



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20461

February 9, 2005

RQ-2

J. Peter Clements, Treasurer  
Republican Party of Virginia, Inc.  
115 East Grace Street  
Richmond, VA 23219

Response Due Date:  
March 11, 2005

Identification Number: C00601305

Reference: 30-Day Post-General Report (10/14/04-11/22/04)

Dear Mr. Clements:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. **An adequate response must be received at the Commission by the response date noted above.** An itemization of the information needed follows:

-The totals listed on Lines 6(c), 7, 11(a)(iii), 11(d), 19, 20, 21(a)(i), 21(a)(ii), 21(b), 21(c), 30(b), 30(c), 31 and 32, Column B of the Summary and Detailed Summary Page(s) appear to be incorrect. Please be advised that you should add the "Calendar Year-to-Date" total from your previous report to the current "Total This Period" figure from Column A to derive the correct Column B totals. Please amend your report and any subsequent reports that may be affected by this correction.

-The beginning cash balance of this report should equal the ending balance of your Amended 12-Day Pre-General Report, received 10/27/04. Please clarify this discrepancy and amend any subsequent report(s) that may be affected by this correction.

-The outstanding balance of a debt owed to a creditor at the close of one report should be exactly the same as the outstanding balance beginning the period of the next report. This report shows a beginning outstanding balance(s) to Benedetti & Ferris, LLC and Feather Larson & Synhorst, which is not identical to the ending outstanding balance(s) for the creditor(s) on the Amended 12-Day Pre-General Report, received 10/27/04. Please amend your report to clarify the discrepancy.

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-On Schedule D of your previous report, you disclosed a debt(s) owed to City of Richmond and Creative Direct, LLC. This obligation(s), however, has been omitted from this report. Please amend your report to include this debt(s) on Schedule D and Line 10 of the Summary Page. All debts and obligations must be disclosed until extinguished. 11 CFR §104.11

-Schedule B supporting Line 21(b) of the Detailed Summary Page discloses \$17,489.31 in disbursements for "signs," "yard signs," and "yd signs, stickers" on behalf of Bob Goodlatte, George W. Bush and Eric Cantor, respectively. Please be advised that a state or local party committee may pay for campaign materials (such as bumper stickers) that are distributed by volunteers in connection with activity on behalf of the party's nominees in a general election. Payments for this type of activity are exempt from the definition of a contribution or expenditure if certain conditions are met. The conditions are that no public advertising may be used, including distribution by direct mail (mailings by a commercial vendor or from commercial lists); all funds used for the activity must be permitted under the Act; none of the funds used may have been designated for a particular candidate; and finally, payments for the activity may not be made from transfers-in from the national committee to specifically fund the activity. For further guidance, please refer to 11 CFR §§100.87 and 100.147 and to the Campaign Guide for Party Committees.

Please clarify the nature of the aforementioned disbursement(s). If the activity disclosed on your report does not meet the definition of "exempt" activity as described above and if any portion of the expenditures were made on behalf of specifically identified candidates, that amount must be disclosed on Schedule B, E or F supporting Line 23, 24 or 25 of the Detailed Summary Page as appropriate.

-Schedule B supporting Line 21(b) of your report discloses a payment(s) totaling \$367,405.19 for "telemarketing," "collateral mtl," "direct mail," "film purchase," "non-allocable voter mail," and "voter mail." Expenditures and disbursements for public communications (as defined under 11 CFR §100.26) that refer to a clearly identified candidate for Federal office and that promote, support, attack or oppose any candidate for Federal office, meet the definition of Federal Election Activity under 11 CFR §100.24 and should be disclosed on Schedule B for Line 30(b) along with the identity of the candidate(s).

Further, public communications that meet the definition of Federal Election Activity and that also contain express advocacy as defined under 11 CFR §100.22, but do not meet the conditions of exempt activity, would constitute an in-kind contribution, an independent expenditure or a

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coordinated party expenditure and should be properly disclosed on a Schedule B, E or F supporting Lines 23, 24 or 25, as appropriate, rather than on Schedule B for Line 30(b). Please amend your report to properly disclose this activity or provide clarifying information.

-Please amend your report by providing the purpose for each disbursement itemized on Schedule(s) B supporting Line(s) 30(b).

-Itemized disbursements must include a brief statement or description of why the disbursements were made. Please amend Schedule(s) B of your report to clarify the following description(s): "collateral matl." For further guidance regarding acceptable purposes of disbursements, please refer to 11 CFR §104.3(b)(3).

-Schedule B supporting Line 21(b) of your report discloses a payment(s) for "literature" which appears to meet the definition of Federal Election Activity ("FEA") and may also meet the conditions of exempt party activity as defined under 11 CFR §§100.80, 100.87, 100.89 and 11 CFR §§100.140, 100.147 and 100.149. Please be advised that activity which simultaneously constitutes both exempt activity and FEA must be paid for as an FEA activity.

If this apparent exempt activity represents Get-out-the-vote activity conducted in connection with an election in which one or more candidates for Federal office appear on the ballot, it is considered to be Federal Election Activity. If this apparent exempt activity represents Voter Registration activity during the period that begins on the date that is 120 calendar days before the date that a regularly scheduled Federal election is held and ends on the date of the election, it is considered to be Federal Election Activity. 11 CFR §100.24

If this apparent exempt activity is a public communication(s) (as defined under 11 CFR §100.26) that refers to a clearly identified candidate for Federal office and promotes, supports, attacks or opposes any candidate for Federal office, it meets the definition of Federal Election Activity under 11 CFR §100.24 and should be disclosed on Schedule B for Line 30(b) along with the identity of the candidate(s).

Further, public communications that meet the definition of Federal Election Activity and that also contain express advocacy as defined under 11 CFR §100.22, but do not meet the conditions of exempt activity, would constitute an in-kind contribution, an independent expenditure or a coordinated party expenditure and should be properly disclosed on a

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Schedule B, E or F supporting Lines 23, 24 or 25, as appropriate, rather than on Schedule B for Line 30(b).

Please amend your report to clarify (1) whether the activity disclosed meets the conditions of exempt party activity and (2) the type of FEA this activity represents or provide clarifying information as to why it does not meet the definition of FEA. In addition, please properly disclose this activity if necessary.

-Your report discloses an in-kind contribution(s) made on behalf of a federal candidate(s). The original payments for the goods and services have been itemized as operating expenditures and included in the total for Line 21(b) of the Detailed Summary Page.

For future reporting, it is recommended that the amount of such activity be subtracted from Line 21(b) and added to Line 23 of the Detailed Summary Page. This method of reporting would clarify for the public record the total amount of contributions to federal candidates (including in-kind contributions) by reflecting them on Line 23 of the Detailed Summary Page.

-Schedule B supporting Line 21(b) of your report discloses a payment(s) for "GO TV Calls" which appears to be disclosed on the wrong line of the Detailed Summary Page. Please be advised that Voter Identification, Generic Campaign and Get-out-the-vote activity conducted in connection with an election in which one or more candidates for Federal office appear on the ballot is considered to be Federal Election Activity. 11 CFR §100.24 Please amend your report to properly disclose this activity on Line 30(b) or provide clarification regarding this activity.

Unlike previous election cycles, you will not receive an additional notice from the Commission on this matter. Adequate responses received on or before this date will be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered. Failure to provide an adequate response by this date may result in an audit of the committee. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act may also result in an enforcement action against the committee. Any response submitted by your committee will be placed on the public record and will be considered by the Commission prior to taking enforcement action.

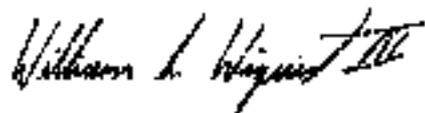
Electronic filers must file amendments (to include statements, designations and reports) in an electronic format and must submit an amended report in its entirety, rather than just those portions of the report that are being amended. If you should have any questions regarding this matter or wish to verify the adequacy of your response, please

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contact me on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 5 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or my local number (202) 694-1394.

Sincerely,



William S. Wiquist  
Campaign Finance Analyst  
Reports Analysis Division

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